

September 12, 2002

Mary Anne Harrison, Foreperson
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GRAND JURY
1100 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93121

RE: 2001-2002 Grand Jury Report on Criminal Justice Detention Facilities

Dear Foreperson Harrison:

The City of Guadalupe provides the following responses regarding Grand Jury findings and recommendations relative to the above-referenced report:

Finding 16: *Only a portion of the fence separating the Mary Buren Elementary School and the Guadalupe Police Station has wooden slats.*

1. The City of Guadalupe acknowledges the above finding.

Finding 17: *The gate separating the back of the Parks and Recreation basketball area from the Station has no lock and was open at the time of the Grand Jury visit.*

1. The City of Guadalupe acknowledges the above finding.

Finding 18: *There is no deterrent at the top of the chain link fence to prevent a detainee from trying the escape into the schoolyard.*

1. The City of Guadalupe acknowledges the above finding.

Recommendation 16: *The entire chain link fence between the School and Police Station needs slats to limit visibility to the children.*

1. Monies to add wooden slats to the chain link fence between Mary Buren Elementary School and the Guadalupe Police Department was not in the police department's 2001/2002 budget. Monies for this project were budgeted in the police department's 2002/2003 budget. Refer to the attached quote from the Fence Factory to complete this project.

Recommendation 17: *Close and padlock the gate.*

1. Regarding placing a padlock on the gate separating the back of the Parks and Recreation basketball area from the Police Station would be a violation of the Uniform Fire Code – Article 12. Please refer to the attached letter from the Guadalupe Fire Chief.

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Recommendation 18: *Add an obstacle to the top of the chain link fence.*

1. Based on conversations with the School Superintendent, Guadalupe Fire Chief and Guadalupe Police Chief, the recommendation to add a deterrent to the top of the chain link fence to prevent detainees from trying to escape into the school yard would be a severe safety hazard for the children from the school yard side if they try to climb the fence to retrieve a ball. All detainees are secured with handcuffs and escorted by a police officer when exiting the police vehicle and while entering the police station, as well as when exiting the police station and entering the police vehicle.

Per your request, enclosed please find a 3 ½" computer diskette with this response letter saved in Microsoft Word format for your information and records.

Should you have any questions and/or require any additional information, please feel welcome to contact me at Extension 103. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Frank M. Usher
City Administrator

FMU:amb

Enclosure: 3 ½" computer diskette (Grand Jury Foreperson only)

pc: Honorable Judge Melville, Presiding Judge for Santa Barbara Superior Court
Mayor Sam Arca
Council Member Herb Sanchez
Council Member Javier Saucedo
Council Member Joe Talaugon
Council Member Ken Westall
Police Chief Jerry Tucker